

PRESS RELEASE Re: At-Sea Incineration

REMARKS BY COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE, MARIE L. VILLANI

May 28, 1982

I AM HERE TODAY IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED SITING OF A TOXIC WASTE TANK FARM AND OCEAN INCINERATOR BY AT-SEA INCINERATION.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS FOR MY POSITION. THE PRIMARY ONE IS THAT THEY PROPOSE TO STORE HIGHLY TOXIC CHEMICAL WASTES IN ~~TANKS~~ TANKS LOCATED IN ONE OF THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED AREAS OF THE WORLD, THE PORT NEWARK AREA.

AT-SEA FURTHER PROPOSES TO TRANSPORT THESE TOXIC CHEMICALS BY APPROXIMATELY 20 TRACTOR TANKERS PER DAY. WE HAVE WITNESSED TOO MANY ACCIDENTS TO BE ABLE TO DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY OF A COLLISION INVOLVING ONE OF THESE TANKERS...AND THE DANGERS FROM AN ACCIDENT ARE TOO FEARFUL EVEN TO CONTEMPLATE. THE POLLUTION DAMAGE TO OUR AREA WOULD BE INTOLERABLE.

FURTHERMORE, THERE IS ALWAYS THE DANGER OF SEEPAGE... THE RESULT OF UNDETECTED SEEPAGE CAN POP UP 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS LATER. NO RESIDENT SHOULD HAVE TO LIVE UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.

RESEARCH BY THE NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL HAS INDICATED THAT NEWARK'S CANCER DEATH RATE IS HIGH ABOVE BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AVERAGES. CERTAINLY, WE SHOULD NOT INCREASE THE RISKS TO OUR RESIDENTS.

PAGE 2

AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL OF NEWARK, MY CHIEF CONCERN
IS FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OVER 300,000 RESIDENTS OF OUR CITY...
AND THAT IS WHY I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THIS PLAN.